



STATE OF WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

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September 23, 2003

TO: Dennis Braddock, Secretary
Department of Social and Health Services

FROM: Marty Brown, Director

SUBJECT: Department of Social and Health Services Incident Report #03-47 Does Not Merit Review

Pursuant to RCW 43.41.370 and the Guidelines for Reporting Incidents, the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) reported an alleged rape of a 74-year-old resident of a Medicare/Medicaid nursing home in Snohomish to the Office of Financial Management (OFM) on March 7, 2003.

Two nursing assistants at Parkway Nursing Center each accused the other of sodomizing a male resident with a hairbrush. The facility reported the complaints and terminated both employees. The Aging and Adult Services Administration and the Snohomish Police Department investigated. The DSHS review concluded that the facility had screened and trained the two employees in accordance with policy and regulation, and had, as a precaution implemented additional training for staff on abuse, neglect and reporting requirements.

RCW 43.41.370(1) requires the Director of OFM to appoint a loss prevention review team when the death of a person, serious injury to a person, or other substantial loss is alleged or suspected to be caused at least in part by the actions of a state agency unless the Director, in his discretion, determines that the incident "does not merit review". Applying the criteria for loss prevention reviews, issued November 18, 2002, I have determined this incident does not merit review. While injury to a resident may have occurred, it appears that the response of DSHS and of the facility was appropriate and that the incident does not significantly relate to agency systems or practices. An additional review is unnecessary at this time.

This decision will be posted on the OFM website. If you have any questions about the criteria or its application to this incident, please contact either Susan Hettinger at (360) 902-9815 or Gary Robinson at (360) 902-0528.

cc: Bernie Friedman, Special Assistant Secretary, Risk Management